

Note on the Radula of *Mitromica* BERRY, 1958

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(1 Text figure)

THE SYSTEMATIC position of the monotypic species *Mitromica solitaria* (C. B. ADAMS, 1858) has long been a puzzle. Although the species has four columellar plaits with the heaviest fold in adapical position, it has other shell characters not typical of Mitridae: a thickened and highly denticulate outer lip, a suggestion of an anal sulcus, and sharply cancellate sculpture, characters stressed by BERRY (1958, p. 94) in his diagnosis of *Mitromica*. Copies of previously published illustrations of the holotype of *Mitromica solitaria* C. B. ADAMS and the synonymous *M. nodocancellata* STEARNS, 1890, are given by KEEN (1958, p. 428, text figure 646).

The radula in the Mitridae has been well documented and is considered a more reliable indicator of family and subfamily relationships than the shell (CERNOHORSKY, 1966). Examination of the radula of *Mitromica solitaria*, from a specimen collected at low tide, San Luis Gonzaga Bay, Gulf of California, skillfully mounted by Mr. Peter M. Oringer (Figure 1), shows the genus to belong to the subfamily Vexillinae of the family Mitridae. The rachidian tooth is bow-shaped and bears seven cusps, intermediate in character between that of the tricuspid rachidian of *Pusia* SWAINSON, 1840, and the multicusp-

idial of *Vexillum* RÖDING, 1798, figured by THIELE (1929, pp. 337-338, text figures) and CERNOHORSKY (1966, pp. 118-121, text figures). The lateral teeth are sickle-shaped as in both of these genera.

LITERATURE CITED

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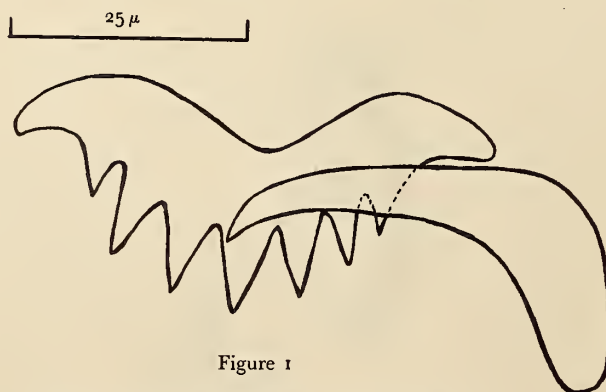


Figure 1

Radula of *Mitromica solitaria* (C. B. ADAMS).
The rachidian plate and one lateral plate are shown